

Minutes for Northfield's Recreation Board
Monday, April 9, 2007
6:00 p.m.
Northfield Municipal office

- 1.) Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Sally Davidson. Attending Sally Davidson, Dan DiLena, Linda Hall, Frank Hall, Lisa DiLena, Arne McMullen of Montpelier rec. Board and Tonya Corbeil & son of The Northfield Boy's and Girl's Club.
- 2.) Approval of minutes from March 12, 2007 put on hold till next meeting
- 3.) Public Participation- Tonya C. came to present letter requesting use of Memorial Park, bath house restrooms and pool during afternoon public swimming time. Some basic info about the summer program

- camp run for 8 weeks, starts one week after school lets out and ends one week before school starts up again
- ages of attending students 5-12, 13 to 15 year olds are considered for the C.I.T. (counselor in training program).
- hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., there is someone there usually before 8 for early drop offs and some stays until all kids are picked up
- They provide activities in the morning on the baseball field and play ground area, weather permitting. Otherwise activities take place in the tent.
- Afternoon the kids that want swim from 12:30 to 3:00
- Previous years they have provided breakfast, snacks and lunch. This year they may not be able to do that due to cost of paying an individual for travel time to and from Barre lunch program location.
- They are in charge of getting their own garbage to the town trash bins at the town highway dept building
- This program loses money EVERY YEAR!!!!
- Paid a fee of \$500.00 to???? for use of area and pool
- Have their own cell phone for emergency use
- Feel they have a GOOD working relationship with the pool staff
- 1 counselor to every 10 kids
- Angela(program advisor) and Tonya have had back ground checks, 3 of the returning counselors will need to have state background checks
- Open to ALL kids in surrounding areas
- Counselors are NOT lifeguard certified

Request from the program...

*Use off the bathhouse bathrooms all day, this would help the program in trying to register with the State of Vermont. This in the long run would assist with the food program cost and availability

*Move the tent from behind the dugouts

*Change night time security of tent area and belongings

Open discussion.....

Previous years the tent has been setup behind the dugout closest to the playground. This has been a hard spot when it rains to keep things dry. Discussion went onto placing the tent up by the playground in the pines. Tonya was agreeable with this and will put in the request to the military for the use of one tent. There was also noted problems with the water fountain constantly being broken. Sally stated that Bill Lyons has decided to remove this fountain. The program is asking for 1st 2 weeks up front payment from the parents. Lost funds due to not collecting fees. This is now being handled thru the Randolph office of the Boy's and Girl's Club. It was also brought up about kids clothing being all over the place at the pool. An agreement of placing it in plastic totes under the pavilion area during swimming time will be used. There is no idea where the \$500.00 price came from. Tonya is to check with the B & G Club about taking their trash down to the grey building and placing it in the trash cans there. Most of the students do not have pool passes (as far as Tonya knows). Tonya did feel it would be a financial strain on some families to have to purchase one as well as camp fees. The summer program has applied for 2 grants (NSB & Merchants Bank) there is no word to date on these. There is some fund raising. Parents are allowed to do in-kind services to assist with fees. At request of police dept. tent flaps are left open overnight so they can just drive up and glance in. Huge problem with missing supplies (i.e. soccer balls, nets and etc.). The registration paperwork is in the process of being done. Per Arne the need for running water and 1 toilet for every 15 kids is required for licensing. If a camper wished to take swimming lessons he/she would be accompanied to the pool for the lesson. That camper would be responsible for any fee associated with the lessons. At this time the board decided not to give a final approval but would let Tonya know ASAP.

Arne McMullen assistant director for the Montpelier Rec. Board spoke about the working relationship and ways of the Mont. Board. He is a paid full time employee with a paid staff. The Rec Department is under the direct supervision and responsibility of the School Board. Their budget comes directly from the school funding budget. He believes that Essex is the only other rec. Board with this kind of setup. They do all field care in return they get use of all facilities. They do all the scheduling of facilities after 5:00, with includes but is not limited to the MHS athletics. They charge a non profit rate of \$30.00 an hour for classroom use. Weekend functions that require a janitor cost more. They do charge for field use when a for profit organization uses it. Life guards wear uniforms purchased by Rec. Dept. Everyone has a back ground check (only good for 6 months). Little League has made it mandatory national background check. The Montpelier pool is equipped with a lightning detector and they clear the pool. Pool Director can make the decision to close the pool, rest of staff not paid. Life Guards do swimming lessons, take lunch then chair rotation. \$ did you mean Three chair rotation 15 minutes each station with the last rotation being in the bathhouse working. Sunscreen and umbrellas provided. Jackets and tee-shirt or tank top also provided. No use of cell phones during working hours. The day camp is licensed. Subsidized by the state...reimbursement for kids who are legally subsidized 0% to 100%. Parents pay remainder of fees. Camp hours 7:45 to 4:45, someone is there from 7:30 to 5:00, Monday thru Friday. Lunch provided thru Barre program, they work with a local church for volunteers to pick up. They also have crafts, sports, nature walks, hiking, and park use. During bad weather they stay in the pool house and 2 30 X 30 tents. The Rec. Dept has 6 fulltime staff. 2 Maintenance, 1

secretary, 1 assistant, 1 seasonal, 1 assistant Dir., Director is 40% rec. and 60 % school. There is no smoking around kids programs or on school property. No drinking or glass bottles allowed in pool area. They host a midnight swim 10 to midnight. (I thought he said it concluded at 10:00) Picnic areas are not rented. Fields rented maybe \$100.00 to \$200.00 a day. When requesting use of facilities a form is needed to be filled out and proof of insurance and a contact person and or responsible parties. Sally requested Arne to send us a copy of this form. They have previously hired out their concession. This concluded the discussion with Arne (Linda left at 8:07).

Decided on to skip rest of agenda and have a round table discussion.....

Dan at this time requested we do the following at another meeting

- *revisit goals and see where we are

- * Kids (school related) use of facilities...no problem

- *Ice rink- keep out of controversy with it and pick up. Leave it up to the committee.

- *Work on a better working relationship with municipal office. Get Nanci to sit down with rec. board and figure out best ways to support each other

Sally questioned when to try and meet with Nanci....request to try for 4/30 at 6:00 at the Municipal office. Will try to discuss pool director applications and where to go from here.

Next regular meeting of the Rec. Board Monday, May 14, 2007. 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. (No 1st or 2nd, everyone ran out).